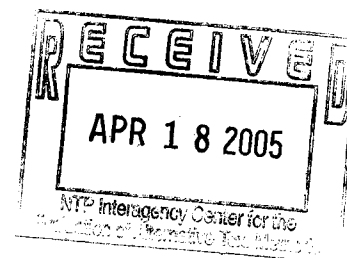


April 8, 2005

Karen R. Porter

William Stokes, D.V.M.
Director, NICEATM
NIEHS
P.O. Box 12233
EC-17
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709



Dear Dr. Stokes:

I am writing concerning the Draize test. I ask that the Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Validation of Alternative Methods and the National Toxicology Program Interagency Center for the Evaluation of Alternative Toxicological Methods recommend that federal agencies immediately begin to accept alternative methods of testing that have been found to be useful.

I also ask that you move forward with recommended improvements in the alternatives without delaying the acceptance of the tests' current forms, and to go beyond the current efforts by developing and validating nonanimal methods to completely replace the use of the Draize test.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

/s/

Karen R. Porter